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# Tiarnafuar

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This fan-fiction article, **Tiarnafuar**, was written by Witcher190. Please do not edit this fiction without the writer's permission.

The **panthera nixrex maximus** (Scholar's Language: *King of the Snow of All Ultimate Prey*) or **tiarnafuar** (Aen Ghele elven dialect: *Lord of the Cold*) is a predator native to the northern regions of the Old Continent. It is found in the southern areas of the Far North and in the northernmost ones of the Hengfors League and Kovir.

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## Ecological Role

It is considered an ambidator (that is, a predator that is itself preyed upon at a certain stage), being the second preferred prey of the white dragons that inhabit the region when the tiarnafuar reaches old age and

**Tiarnafuar**

**Taxonomy**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Danger Level** | Extremely high |
| **Domain** | Eukaryota |
| **Kingdom** | Animalia |
| **Phylum** | Chordata |
| **Class** | Mammalia |
| **Order** | Carnivora |
| **Family** | Felidae |
| **Genus** | Panthera |

its mobility declines.

On the other hand, tiarnafuar, together with white dragons, often prey upon the mammoth populations that inhabit the area. However, unlike white dragons, the tiarnafuar also obtains its food from other sources, such as ungulates, carrion, and, in general, anything that crosses its path.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Species** | Panthera Nixrex |
| **Physiology** | |
| **Height** | Similar to a bear |
| **Length** | Similar to a bear |
| **Weight** | Similar to a bear |
| **Hide** | White-orangish with black spots |
| **Eyes** | Greenish |
| **Ecology** | |
| **Lifespan** | 30 years |
| **Intelligence** | Similar to other members of the felidae family |
| **Nature** | Highly aggresive |
| **Range** | Far North of the Old Continent |
| **Habitat** | Cold plains of the Far North, primarily tundra |
| **Diet** | Carnivorous |
| **Prey** | Mammoths, humans, Aen Ghele elves, ungulates, carrion, and generally anything that crosses their path |
| **Predators** | White dragons |

## Behavior and Diet

They are semi-solitary ambidators that hunt in groups only when necessity demands it; that is, they possess a latent social structure, which usually emerges during the mating and post-mating period. It is during this time that they tend to hunt mammoths more frequently in order to secure a food source that can last for weeks.

Their hunting behavior consists of ambush followed by a charge, and if the prey survives, it is then tracked through blood trails or subjected to a short pursuit.

Females are known to fight over the dominant males of during the reproduction period, due to factors such as endurance and accumulated fat reserves. The male with the fewest injuries after a hunt and the greatest amount of stored fat is considered the most suitable for reproduction, as these traits are likely to be inherited by the offspring.

If conflicts arise within the group, it splits into a new one, with the females following a particular male and accompanying him along with their offspring.

## Morphology

They clearly descend from snow leopards, which adapted to less rugged and more open terrain. As a result, they lost their tails, both to reduce surface area vulnerable to the cold and to avoid being grabbed during combat with large prey, and they acquired greater body mass. The latter likely serves to withstand blows from larger animals such as mammoths or to be more difficult for white dragons to lift.

They possess a set of double claws: an upper series and a lower series, which allow them to function as apex predators within their habitat. The upper claws serve for grip and tearing, while the lower ones provide anchorage and stability.

In addition, they have a series of plantar spurs beneath their paws, enabling them to anchor themselves more effectively to the ground in deep snow, thus preventing slipping. Although this, together with their size, makes their hunting slower than that of other members of the Panthera genus, it significantly reduces noise, surpassing even snow leopards in stealth.

Their size is comparable to that of a bear, being slightly larger. Females are larger than males, at least during the reproductive period, as they tend to accumulate more fat, which they later use—through the milk they produce—to nourish their offspring.

## Habitat

Cold plains of the Far North, primarily tundra. Some individuals inhabit the outskirts of boreal forests. It avoids heavily wooded areas, as it loses its advantage when hunting—both in terms of mobility, due to its size, and in stealth, since vegetation, fallen logs, and similar obstacles tend to produce noise that alerts its prey.

This leads it to make use of forest edges for cover and surprise, preying upon anything that emerges unexpectedly.

## Cultural Role

In the Northern Kingdoms—more specifically Hengfors and Kovir, from which it receives its taxonomic name—it is regarded as yet another curiosity of the Far North region. Among the local nobility, fortunes are paid for garments made from its pelts, as their semi-orange white coloration with spots is extremely

difficult to replicate in textile production.

Among certain Weska peoples, on the other hand, it is taken as a personal challenge not to hunt it, but to domesticate it. Results have been mixed, as the creature tolerates humans but never fully obeys them, likely because the Weska are unable to provide it with all the food it requires to become fully domesticated.

For the Aen Ghele elves who live in tribes, it is regarded as another force of nature. Its presence is usually considered a positive omen when encountered alone, as following it suggests that food is nearby, and a negative one when in a group, as one may quickly become prey. From this derives its name, *Lord of the Cold*.

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